

From: ["Congdon, Julie"](#)
To:
Date: 9/7/2018 3:54:49 PM
Subject: updates on the Lower Duwamish Waterway Superfund Site

Hello, all!

We hope that this message finds you enjoying the waning days of summer! Thank you for your continued interest and engagement with the [Lower Duwamish Waterway Superfund Site](#) (and the Harbor Island Superfund sites as well). Please read below for updates on the cleanup and some key announcements and information.



Public Health Seattle/King County and Community Health Advocates, outreaching with EPA to attendees at the Duwamish River Festival in August 2018

Status of Field Work and Sampling

Field work for baseline, started last summer, has wrapped up.

As in 2017, "passive samplers" were retrieved from two locations near the bottom of the river after 30 days. The samplers are made of material that picks up PCBs in the water and, over time, matches PCB levels in water. The 2017 and 2018 sampling will be a starting point for future monitoring and will help assess how much PCB concentrations in water near the bottom vary over time and space.

In addition, the last of a series of baseline water samples were collected at the end of July. Two sample locations are in the waterway and one is in the Green River. The 2018 "dry base flow" sampling repeats what was done in 2017 under similar conditions. Together with various rainy season samples, it will give us a better idea of how much water quality is influenced by storms and releases of water from the Howard Hanson Dam.

Once these samples are analyzed, they will be included in a data report of all baseline water samples. The data will be interpreted and discussed ("evaluated") in a comprehensive Data Evaluation Report that includes the results of all of the sediment, fish, crab, and clam and water sampling completed by the Lower Duwamish Waterway Group in 2017 and 2018.

Next Phase of Cleanup Begins

In July, the Lower Duwamish Waterway Group [agreed to design the cleanup for the Upper Reach](#), the southernmost two miles of the Lower Duwamish Waterway. Sampling to support engineering will happen first, followed by development of engineering designs. EPA is currently convening the Roundtable of affected residents, fishers, businesses, Tribes, and local government to provide input during the design. While design work continues, EPA is preparing to negotiate an agreement for the remaining cleanup work. For more information about the cleanup, please contact Elly Hale, Remedial Project Manager, by phone: 206-553-1215, or email: hale.elly@epa.gov

Cleanup of Lockheed West Seattle Begins

If you look northeast from Jack Block Park in West Seattle, you can observe the cleanup work underway which began in the middle of August. After a brief stoppage due to the crane operators strike, workers will be back on site on Monday to continue the removal of debris and pilings. If you have questions about this site cleanup, please contact Piper Peterson, Remedial Project Manager, by phone: 206-553-4951, or email:

peterston.piper@epa.gov

Fishing Institutional Controls Work

This summer, Public Health Seattle/King County began the development of the Fish Consumption Institutional Control (IC) Plan for promoting healthy seafood consumption. They started the plan process through the first meetings of the Community Steering Committee. The Community Steering Committee includes Community Health Advocates (CHAs) and members from the Latino, Vietnamese and Cambodian fishing communities. They are providing input on the Plan to PHSKC as it is being developed. If you have questions about the IC Program, please contact Ashley Grompe (grompe.ashley@epa.gov) who is overseeing the project while Rebecca Chu temporarily serves in another position at EPA.

The CHAs have been busy this summer, talking to fishers on the Spokane Street Bridge and in living room chats, as well as at events like the Duwamish River Festival, sharing a booth with EPA. We will be partnering again to have a booth at the Fiestas Patrias festival in South Park on Saturday, Sept. 15 from 1-6pm. Come by and get salmon recipes like CHA Paco Ramos' [Blackened Cajun Salmon](#) or CHA Sophorn Sim's [Khmer Amok Salmon](#).

Duwamish Roundtable

We are gearing up for the first meeting of the Duwamish Roundtable on Thursday, Oct. 11. As noted above, EPA is convening the Roundtable for the design and implementation of the sediment cleanup, with the purpose of mitigating the impacts of cleanup on the affected communities. If you are interested in being a member of the Roundtable, please come to a short orientation session about the Roundtable. As part of the Tuesday, Sept. 25, 6-8pm: Community Orientation to the Duwamish Cleanup to be held at the South Park Neighborhood Association (8201 10th Avenue S) on Tuesday, Sept. 25 from 6-8pm, EPA will have a special training session from 7-7:45pm about the Duwamish Roundtable. In the meantime, if you would like more information about the Roundtable, please see the documents linked below:

- [Draft Operating Procedures](#)
- [Roundtable FAQs](#)
- [April 18 Roundtable Webinar Recording](#)

If you have additional questions, please contact Julie Congdon, Community Involvement Coordinator, by phone: 206.553.2752, or email: congdon.julie@epa.gov

Upcoming Dates

- **Saturday, Sept. 15, 1-6pm: Fiestas Patrias in South Park**, Seattle – EPA and Public Health Seattle/King County will have a booth at the fair; come by and learn more about safe fish consumption from the Duwamish, and pick up new recipes on how to prepare salmon.
- **Tuesday, Sept. 25, 6-8pm: Community Orientation to the Duwamish Cleanup**. South Park Neighborhood Association (8201 10th Avenue S). EPA will talk about the Superfund side of the cleanup, Ecology will talk about its work to control sources of pollution to the river, and DRCC will talk about its programs and its role in helping community members present and discuss their needs and concerns related to the Superfund cleanup. There also will be a special training session from 7-7:45pm about the Duwamish Roundtable for those who are interested in becoming members of the Roundtable.
- **Thursday, Oct. 11, 3:30-5:30pm: first meeting of the Duwamish Roundtable**. *Location to be determined.*
- **Saturday, Oct. 20, 10am-2pm: Duwamish Alive** habitat restoration and cleanup event at a dozen locations along the Duwamish River.

For more information on the US Environmental Protection Agency's work in the Lower Duwamish Waterway, please visit <https://www.epa.gov/superfund/lower-duwamish>

For information on Washington Department of Ecology's work in the Lower Duwamish Waterway, please visit

<https://ecology.wa.gov/Spills-Cleanup/Contamination-cleanup/Cleanup-sites/Toxic-cleanup-sites/Lower-Duwamish-Waterway>

*For information on the Community Advisory Group, please contact the Duwamish River Cleanup Coalition/Technical Advisory Group (DRCC/TAG) at: duwamishcleanup.org;
e-mail to: contact@duwamishcleanup.org, or phone: 206-954-0218.*